

## The Virginia Citizen.

## DEMOCRATIC WEEKLY.

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W. McDONALD LEE, EDITOR.

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2 inches	2.50	5.00	7.50	10.00	12.50	15.00	50.00
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4 inches	5.00	10.00	15.00	20.00	25.00	30.00	100.00
5 inches	6.25	12.50	18.75	25.00	31.25	37.50	125.00
6 inches	7.50	15.00	22.50	30.00	37.50	45.00	150.00
7 inches	8.75	17.50	26.25	35.00	43.75	52.50	175.00
8 inches	10.00	20.00	30.00	40.00	50.00	60.00	200.00
9 inches	11.25	22.50	33.75	45.00	56.25	67.50	225.00
10 inches	12.50	25.00	37.50	50.00	62.50	75.00	250.00
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All communications or business letters should be addressed to THE VIRGINIA CITIZEN, Irvington, Va., to receive prompt attention.

Friday, March 23, 1900.

## HOPE OUT OF DARKNESS.

Even the Republicans are beginning to awaken to a realization of the enormity of some of the trust squeezes which have been organized and fostered under their government policies. The octopus has been spreading his tentacles and gathering in his victims while legislators have closed their eyes to the cries for help from the common people. At last the government, when itself was pinched, called a halt upon the steel trust. Will it not do so before it is too late in the case of the oil trust, which is grinding the poor of every state? The Standard Oil Company, the most stupendous monopoly on the face of the globe, has recently had the audacity to declare and make public a dividend of 80 per cent (or \$20,000,000) on millions of stock which is largely fictitious—and only on paper. The Supreme Court has given this monopoly a blow by upholding the constitutionality of the Texas anti-trust law; the Czar of Russia, in order to prevent the Standard Oil Company and its Russian allies from bleeding his people for three times the cost of petroleum, proposes to nationalize the oil industry in Russia, and now Congressman Ray, of New York, chairman of the House Committee on Judiciary and at the head of a special subcommittee on trusts, has introduced the following joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution:

Article XVI. The Congress shall have power to regulate and repress monopolies and combinations; to create and dissolve corporations and dispose of their property; to make all laws necessary and proper for the execution of the foregoing powers. Such powers may be exercised by the several states in any manner not in conflict with the laws of the United States.

Lights may yet glimmer in the homes that have been darkened by the unrighteous squeeze and steal of this government protegee.

## OYSTER AND FISH LAWS.

A synopsis of the oyster and fish laws was recently published in these columns. For the information of those interested, and to answer many inquiries, the CITIZEN notes the following:

The 3-inch cull law and all other statutes on the subject of oysters and fish that were passed by the recent legislature went into effect from date of passage. We are informed by those who were instrumental in new oyster legislation that it was found necessary, owing to the rapid depletion of the rocks, either to increase the size of oyster under cull law or to shorten the season for taking oysters, and that the former was thought the most advisable.

The license for crabbing, as we understand it, does not apply to hand crabbing with skiffs. It is applicable only to sail boats and scuppers.

The Supreme Court has decided constitutional the fish law which was passed by the Legislature of 1897-98, and amended by the recent legislature. The test case went up from Mathews county court.

## A HOME ENTERPRISE.

The report of the Northern Neck Mutual Fire Association, published by direction of the Auditor of Public Accounts, on the local page of this paper, will be a surprise to many of our people who have not watched the workings of our home insurance association. It is hard to realize that more than a quarter of a million dollars of live insurance is carried by this association, all of which has been secured in the four years of its existence. Ninety per cent of this is in the counties of Lancaster and Northumberland alone. Although the charter of the Association extends to the counties of Richmond and Westmoreland the work of soliciting has not been pushed in those counties. All losses have been promptly met by the Association, and the fact that no stores, factories and such like are accepted has kept losses down to a minimum, and the cost to those insured has been barely more than one-half of the usual cost in old-line companies.

The baby-carriage trust has advanced prices 30 per cent. Expensive luxuries that may be dispensed with—both baby and carriage.

Our Fifth District representative in Congress, Hon. Claude A. Swanson, is one of the most popular, as well as brilliant, young men in Congress. And his popularity was considerably increased the other day when, in a passionate and eloquent manner, he spurned to take the amount awarded him in the contest which Thorpe had made for his seat, because some Republicans hinted that it was voted him on account of his popularity. The newspapers say it was a thrilling time in the House, and we are glad that a Virginian represented the suggestion and threw it in the teeth of partyism. The Baltimore American, a Republican paper, has this to say about the affair:

"The honest politician has been discovered at last. Swanson, of Virginia, refused to allow the House of Representatives to pay his contested election expenses."

The General Assembly in its closing hours passed a resolution instructing its representatives in Congress to vote for an amendment to the Federal Constitution, whereby United States Senators shall be elected by popular vote, instead of by the Legislature of the several states. It is a source of some gratification to us to know that our Legislature has taken the only legal way to bring about such a proposition.—*Chesapeake Watchman.*

And this was done by what some of our contemporaries delight to call a "Martin Legislature," and only two votes were cast against it in the State Senate. Senator Martin and his friends throughout the canvass maintained that they were in favor of such legislation, but the opposition denied that they were, and even said that this plan was no good! Yet today they are chirping on the action of the legislature as though it was their victory!

A VOTE is to be taken this week in Congress on the bill which Chairman Lusk has reported in respect to the postal laws as applicable to newspapers. The effect of the bill, if passed, will be to kill out many of the country weeklies. A majority of the large city dailies are in favor of the bill, but we are glad to see that our contemporaries of the cities of Virginia are not among the number. The bill is unjust and will work a hardship to those country people who cannot afford to subscribe to a daily paper. With such legislation, and the paper trust raising prices, it will be hard plucking for the country papers. Already a number have suspended, while others have had to increase the price of subscription.

Those who are in earnest—and nearly all of our people have declared themselves so—about having a Constitutional convention should not rest on their oars. There is much to be done before it is secured. In some parts of the state the officeholders are working diligently against it. We do not know of an official in this section but who has announced himself in favor of holding such a convention. It ought, then, to be no difficult matter to secure delegations to the State convention at Norfolk, on May 2nd, that are unanimously in favor of the movement.

Governor Tyler is liable to make people think that he regards the election of 1897 as the only real thing we have had in Virginia for some years.—*Richmond News.*

Sure. And he is "rubbing it in." Isn't it the decree that none but "original" and everlasting Tylerites need apply for pardons, appointments and favors? The almost-defunct ban is grasping at every scared and yellow leaf. But the frost is coming—then—

"Why should the spirit of mortal be proud? Like a swift-fleeting meteor, a fast-flying cloud."

THERE is a cause for congratulation on the boom that has struck Richmond. Her May carnival will be surpassing fine; the Freight Claims offices of the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad are soon to be moved to our capital city, and the great American Tobacco Company has discharged its entire list of five hundred employees, men and women, from its New York cigar factory and will move part of the plant to Richmond.

WE WOULD remind the Staunton Spectator that the Commissioners of Valuation act, with all its flaws, is not a piece of legislation creating an additional tax, but one which has for its object the collecting of taxes upon property which has been taxable and assessed for many legislative sessions, and which, it is asserted, has largely avoided being listed.

BY ALL means let the next Congressional convention for this District be held at Wharton Grove Camp Ground, near Weems, in this county. The place is accessible, beautiful and commodious, and we hope the Watchman will push its motion.

A SNUFF trust has been formed. That's to get a "corner" on sneezes.

People of King George county are much agitated over a disease, supposed to be "blackleg," which is destroying a large number of cattle. One farmer, Mr. Frank Taylor, has lost eight animals from the disease.

## ENGLAND AND THE BOERS.

## More About the Pig-Sticking Which the English are Engaged In.

President Kruger declares that the Boers will only cease fighting with death.

The Boers have blown up the bridges north of Bloemfontein and are retreating to the north.

A South African official who has just reached London from Europe says that if the United States refuse to order the war stopped it would be done.

Kitchener occupied Prieska unopposed; the insurgents surrendered their arms. Thirty-three prisoners were taken, two hundred stands of arms and some supplies and explosives.

Lord Roberts has occupied Bloemfontein, the Orange Free State capital, and when the news reached London there was great rejoicing. It is said that the severest test of the British troops is yet to come, when the rugged Transvaal border is reached.

Cape Colony insurgents have laid down their arms. Many Free Staters and Transvaalers are returning to their farms; it seems only a matter of a short while before Kruger will be without an army. It is stated that Britain has 400,000 Australian troops ready for the field.

## AFTERMATH OF LEGISLATURE.

The Legislature of Virginia at its late session passed an act making banking perfectly free and allowing banks with State charters to issue as many notes as their directors think their assets will maintain.

It has been discovered that a bill passed by the late session assembly abolishes, at least partially, a compulsory pilotage now in vogue at the entrance to Chesapeake bay, which ship-owners have tried to get rid of for several years.

Under the new Pension Bill passed by the legislature which has just adjourned all Confederate soldiers who are unable to make a living by manual labor, and the widows of Confederate soldiers who have died since the war, are entitled to pension when they do not own \$1,000 worth of property. The Judge of the Circuit Court will appoint five commissioners for each county who will consider applications.

It is important that each and every property-owner examine his tax receipts. If owners of property have not paid their taxes for the year of 1898, they may be sold without further notice to auction. Under the new law, when one buys from the State notice must be given to the owner (and to the beneficiary, or trustee, if there be a lien), and he has four months in which to redeem his property. The old law, under which the sales for 1898 will take place, requires no notice from the purchaser to the owner, nor to any one else.

## THAT COMMISSIONER'S LAW.

A. F. Rice has been appointed Commissioner of Valuation for Northumberland, and C. H. Ashton for King George.

## BANK CASHIER PUT IN JAIL.

ALEXANDRIA, Va., March 17.—The Citizens' National Bank of this city will test the constitutionality of the commissioners of valuation act, recently passed by the Legislature. Lewis C. Barley, who yesterday qualified as Commissioner of Valuation in this city, at once proceeded to the Citizens' National Bank and demanded of Assistant Cashier W. Frank Lambert what a certain gentleman had to his credit in that bank.

Mr. Lambert promptly refused to give him the desired information, and Mr. Barley at once proceeded to the Mayor's office and swore out a warrant for his arrest. Mr. Lambert was arrested and fined the minimum penalty of the offense, \$30. Mr. Lambert refused to pay the fine and was committed, pending an application forwarded to the Court of Appeals, at Richmond, for a writ of habeas corpus.

## LAWYERS SHOULD'N'T KICK.

(Fredericksburg Star.)

Our lawyer friends can find no fault with or cause of complaint about the bill, for in nearly every county in the State they have started some kind of proceeding—civil or criminal—to test the validity of the act. So it is an ill wind that blows nobody good, and this bill will add something to their bank accounts. Besides they will have the pleasure of seeing their names in the papers as "able and distinguished lawyers," which is also worth something.

## FROM WASHINGTON LETTER.

(From Our Regular Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 19, 1900. The nightmare labeled "Porto Rico tariff" still hovers over the pillow of prominent Republicans and destroys their sleep. All sorts of propositions are being advanced by Republican Senators to avoid any thing like an open rupture in their party on this question, one of them being to continue the debate until the close of the session without allowing the bill to come to a vote, and another to keep up with all sorts of amendments and then defeat it by an overwhelming vote. The dodge in either of these expedients would be so palpable that it is hardly conceivable that the Republican leaders will be foolish enough to allow either to be adopted.

This alleged offer of the good offices of this government to facilitate negotiations for peace between Great Britain and the Dutch Republics in South Africa, was confirmatory rather than otherwise of the belief that an understanding exists between the McKinley administration and the present British government. It entitles Mr. McKinley to make an attempt to soothe the numerous Republican sympathizers with the struggling republics, by pretending to do something and at the same time give Lord Salisbury just what he wanted—an excuse to serve notice on the powers of Europe, through his answer to the alleged offer of our good offices, that no mediation would be tolerated by Great Britain and that the conquest of the numerous republics would be pushed to a conclusion as originally planned.

Foreign policies are not the only things this administration is copying from European nations. Secretary Long has created a board to be known as the Naval Policy Board,

corresponding to general staff of European navies, which will control our Navy both in peace and war. Admiral Dewey is head of the new board.

Although it has taken Congress thirty years to recognize the justice of Southern war claims it has at last reached the point. The House Committee on War Claims has favorably reported the bill authorizing the payment of all claims presented on behalf of churches, schools, libraries, hospitals, and establishments conducted for the benefit of churches, or for charitable purposes, arising from the use and occupation of buildings, grounds and other property injured, consumed or destroyed by the United States army during the war between the States. Many Virginia churches and buildings are in the list of beneficiaries.

## POLITICAL.

The Republican convention in Rockingham broke up in a row. Fists, sticks and chairs were used freely.

Fairfax Republicans in convention censured President McKinley for his change of front on the Porto Rican matter.

Ex-President Cleveland is expected to issue a formal endorsement of William J. Bryan's candidacy for the Presidency.

District of Columbia Democrats in a rousing meeting, endorsed Bryan, and Congressman Salzer, of New York, for vice-President.

"The Republican leaders of Virginia state that there will be practically no opposition to the endorsement of President McKinley by the Norfolk convention."

The Virginia Republicans are acting in some districts as if going to the national convention carried a check on the pie counter with it.—*Richmond News.*

The President to be elected next November may have a filling of four of the nine places on the United States Supreme bench. One of the vacancies will be the chief justiceship.

"Politics is growing warm in North Carolina," said Colonel John S. Cunningham, of that State. "We are to vote on an amendment to the Constitution, which will virtually eliminate the negro from North Carolina politics. The white people are determined to rule. The outlook is that the amendment will carry by 25,000 majority."

People from Richmond here say the prevailing impression in political circles there now is that Representative Swanson, of the Democratic district, will be the Democratic nominee for the next Governor of Virginia, and that Delegate Willard, of Fairfax county, will be the nominee for Lieutenant-Governor.—*Washington Courier Alexandria Gazette.*

Referring to the recent partisan action of the Republican majority in Congress in unseating Congressman Young, of Norfolk, the Washington Post says: "The seat-taking in the House of Representatives cannot be justified on the mere ground that the dominant party needs more majority. The voters have a happy faculty of settling with the political organization that substitutes brutality for justice."

A convention of Middlesex Republicans met at Saluda on Saturday, R. S. Bristol, W. E. Robinson and Robert Field were delegates to the First District convention which meets at Cape Charles on the 9th of April. The same delegates were elected to represent the county in the State convention, which meets at Norfolk on the 10th of that month. Resolutions were adopted endorsing the administration of President McKinley.

The basis of representation for the State Convention to be held in the City of Norfolk at 12 o'clock M., on the 2nd day of May, 1900, is one delegate for every 200 votes cast for the Democratic candidate for President in 1896, and one delegate for every fraction over 100 votes. Counties of this section are entitled to representation as follows: Lancaster 5, Northumberland 5, Richmond 3, Westmoreland 4, King George 3, Middlesex 3, Essex 5.

The Republican press and Republican leaders in all sections of the country have arisen to denounce the measure, which was passed through the House under President McKinley's trust pressure. Even McKinley himself is thoroughly frightened at the storm which has been raised and is endeavoring to flim-flam the people with the belief that he bowed to the will of a majority of his party. But his disgraced participation in the fight to secure the passage of the bill this claim might have caught the unwary. As the matter stands, however, he is self-convinced of double justification.—*Newport News Press.*

## THE KENTUCKY MUDDLE.

Kentucky women are taking as much interest in the little muddle of the men. The wives of the most conspicuous in the muddle write frequent letters telling their husbands to stand firm and splutter a little blow if necessary to win out. Marrowbone Creek, Ky., comes to the front with two men killed and an "innocent bystander" wounded in a street duel.

## GOREBEL'S ASSASSIN KNOWN.

Sergeant Golden has divulged the name of the man who fired the shot which killed Gorebel. The person mentioned is a mulatto, and is known as a dead shot. He is now supposed to be in the wilds of one of the mountain counties. Evidence that he was in Frankfort at the time of the assassination was found among papers taken from W. H. Culton, a clerk in the Auditor's office, when the latter was arrested, a week or so ago, on a warrant charging him with being an accessory to the murder.

## Suicide in Westmoreland.

Robert Kennedy, who resided near Oldhams, Westmoreland county, committed suicide at his home Sunday night by shooting himself with a shotgun. His children, however, returned from church and asked their father to open the door. He responded, "Wait a minute," and then shot himself twice in the left side.

A. R. De Ruem, editor of the Journal, Doylestown, Ohio, suffered from a nervous ailment for some time. He was entirely useless. I tried Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, and almost immediately the pain subsided and he was able to get about. He is now as well as ever. For sale by G. W. Weems, Irvington, Va. W. H. Harding & Bro., Worcester, Mass.

## PREACHER SHOTS DOCTOR.

## Victim of Preacher Riddick's Pistol Succumbs to His Wounds.

A shocking tragedy occurred near White Plains, Brunswick county, last week. Dr. W. H. Temple, prominent citizen was annoyed by knocks at his front door and, dressing hastily, he opened the door and minister of that church, who drew a pistol and saying, "I intend to kill you," snapped it in the face of Dr. Temple. The doctor ran back through the hall into the back yard followed by Mr. Riddick, who fired several shots at him, four taking effect.

Mr. Riddick was arrested and in the preliminary hearing, these facts were developed: Dr. Temple, on Wednesday of last week, paid a professional visit to Mrs. Riddick. On the Sunday following Mr. Riddick went to Dr. Temple's house, and when the doctor refused to meet him, he snapped a pistol and hit him. The doctor treated and Riddick, in return, shot him four times. The alleged cause of the shooting was a remark made by Dr. Temple to Mrs. Riddick which she repeated to her husband, but which he, being very deaf, misunderstood as being insulting to his wife.

The generally expressed opinion is that Mr. Riddick either felt himself justified in shooting Dr. Temple, or else his mind was unbalanced when he committed the rash act. Dr. Temple died Sunday afternoon last.

## "YOU WERE NOT JUSTIFIED."

LAWRENCEVILLE, Va., March 17.—Mr. Riddick refuses absolutely to receive visitors. Several of his friends called at the jail, but were denied admission. He sleeps well and has a good appetite. It is thought by those who are thrown in close contact with the prisoner that he is not insane. Last Monday morning just before he was brought to this place he requested that he be driven by his home to see his wife. When there, and in the presence of the guard, he asked Mrs. Riddick some questions they could not hear, but to which she replied: "No, I did not tell you that, and you were not justified in shooting Dr. Temple."

## ACROSS THE SEAS.

Another call has been made upon this Government to aid the starving thousands in Porto Rico.

## PHILIPPINES.

Information from Manila is to the effect that American soldiers are dying by regiments—at the rate of 1,000 a month.

No section of the island except that immediately surrounding Manila appears to be thoroughly subdued.

Flores, Aguineldo's Secretary of War, has surrendered to General McArthur.

Aguineldo's infant son, who was captured in November and who has been suffering from small-pox, is dead.

Agonillo has issued a statement to the effect that the Americans lost heavily and had many captured in the recent engagements in the Philippines. A great battle has been fought at Batangas and another one at Caalac. In the Visayan provinces the insurgents burned San Juan de Betsok and other villages, rather than permit the Americans to occupy them.

The natives say Aguineldo is in Luzon actively directing his supporters. It was recently reported that he had gone to Japan, but this was unconfirmed.

Dispatches tend to confirm reports that the Philippines in the rainy season, now beginning, will try to win back all the territory recently "conquered" by the Americans.

## CUBA.

Secretary of State Root, who is on an official visit to Cuba, says they are capable of self government, but must wait. He stated that there is no doubt but the United States will keep faith with the Islanders and give them self-government, but he cannot tell when.

HAVANA, March 17.—The Secretary had a long conference with the Cuban leaders and again promised absolute independence to the island. However, the promise had the usual qualifications, it being that Cuba must first have a stable government.

The standing hope of an early fulfillment of Cuba Libre has been pretty generally dispelled by Root's talk, and considerable dissatisfaction is manifested in consequence.

## Constitutional Convention.

The Norfolk Virginian-Pilot says: "It is quite possible that the constitution of Virginia can be improved upon. The men who framed it did not set up the claim that it was perfect. On the contrary they provided a method by which it may be changed or amended whenever, in the judgment of the people of Virginia, experience shall have shown it to be in any particular unsuited to the needs of the commonwealth of which it is the supreme law."

It is said that there will be an organized and a bitter fight made against the proposed constitutional convention. Most of the office-holders, it is said, but not all of them, object to the convention. Some are willing to take chances of securing office under a new constitution. All of the corporations are against a convention.

## Now Under a Gold Standard.

With a gold pen the President affixed his signature to the currency bill last week, thus making gold the single standard of value for our money.

According to Republican views this will be beneficial, and was achieved through tedious education of the people on financial questions. Hugh H. Hanna, of Indianapolis, says: "It will for many years at least clearly define the monetary standard, give stability to values and confidence to the people, and firmly establish our credit abroad. It is the crowning triumph of a century of progress such as the world has never known. It has settled the most mooted question that has divided the American people since the Civil War."

Eleven Democrats voted for the conference report on the bill.

## NEWS ITEMS.

It has been definitely decided that the School of Methods will be held this year at Roanoke.

Dr. Hunter McGuire, the distinguished physician, has been stricken with paralysis of the right side.

Rev. Alexander G. Brown, D. D., the eminent Methodist divine, died last week at his residence at Ashland.

Maud S., the famous trotter, died at Port Chester, N. Y., Saturday. She was owned by the Bonner estate and was twenty-six years old. Her trotting record of 2:08 1/2 was made in 1885.

A movement is on foot to erect a monument to Rev. John B. Laurens, of which he was the founder. Mr. Laurens died six years ago, and is buried in Ashland. It is proposed to erect a monument to him in Hollywood.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Shelton, of King George county, will have the distinction this spring of giving the census enumerator a "family record" remarkably different from that given by any other parents in Virginia. Two children were recently born to Mrs. Shelton, and one of them is eight days older than the other.

## Northumberland Co. AVALON.

The public school taught by Faller Jones has closed.

Miss Willie Hughes has returned to her home after a pleasant visit of a week with relatives near here.

Mrs. S. E. Jones visited her mother recently.

Miss Carrie Ticer has protracted her visit in our midst.

This scribe (being a rose-bud not affected by the recent cold) was disappointed in not seeing the other buds put forth their appearance last Sunday at Corinth.

Our fish trappers are busy putting out their traps.

Lagrippe is prevalent in this neighborhood.

## MISKIMON.

The public school at Providence, taught by Miss Bessie Gill, closed on Monday last, and we hear it rumored that Miss Bessie is intending to leave for Pennsylvania, but we hope this rumor is incorrect, for she would be greatly missed.

Miss Ellen Eubank's school will close Friday the 23rd with a musical entertainment and general good time to all who will attend.

The Coles and R. O. Beane spent Sunday in Hack's Neck with Tom Coles to visit his brother, Sie Coles, who continues very sick.

W. T. Marsh has purchased a new boiler and engine for his mill, and judging by the size of it, he can do big work now.

## BLUFF POINT.

The good people of this place are very glad to have the store at Lynnhaven reopened and to see the bright countenance of the genial T. H. Hinton behind the counter. Mr. Hinton will also take charge of the post office.

The young people will give a "musical entertainment" at "West Richmond," the home of Jas. 4th Kelley on Wednesday, April 4th, for the benefit of Union chapel, at this place. The violinists, T. H. Hinton, Samuel Coles and "Peepie" Coles are sufficient to convince the public that the entertainment will be well worth the small admission fee of ten cents. Mr. Kelley has kindly opened his home to us and the public is cordially invited to attend. The entertainment will last about two hours, consisting of both vocal and instrumental music. Admission will be only 10 cents. Refreshments will also be served.

The many friends of Joseph Ball are glad to have him home again after several months' absence.

## DUCHES.

Messrs. Rice and Rowe, our road contractors, were in this district last week putting up guide posts.

Mrs. Martha Thomas is much better.

Mrs. Priscilla Barnes is unwell, but by the skillful treatment of Dr. Mitchell she will soon be out.

C. H. Hineck, one of our enterprising saw-mill men, will soon move his mill on the land of James Thomas. Capt. Ned Thomas, of Coan, was in this village Saturday and was welcomed by the old and young as his sign was a bunch of fresh fish.

Robert Bryant has moved to L. Williams, at Heathsville.